

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3372
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2016
National Agricultural Science Fund
Maganti Shri Murali Mohan

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the main objectives of "National Agricultural Science Fund (NASF)";
- (b) whether the Government has achieved the desired results under NASF and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the funds released by the Government under NASF during the last two years;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the maximum extent of money under this fund is released for fostering research and research culture and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has received any requests from the societies/organizations from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof including the details of ongoing projects implemented by NASF?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) The main objective of the NASF scheme has been to build capacity for basic, strategic and cutting edge application research in agriculture and address issues which can be solved by intensive basic and strategic research jointly by team of organization/institutions. Underlying this objective are the following aims:-

a) Foster research and a research culture that will use and advance the frontiers of scientific knowledge to effectively meet the present, anticipated and unanticipated problems of agriculture through various modes and critical investments in research projects.

b) Build the capability of the National Agricultural Research System through development of wide partnerships in science through projects.

c) Build a storehouse of advancement of knowledge in science related to agriculture and awareness of the national importance of basic and strategic research in agriculture.

d) To provide policy support to the decision makers for use of basic and strategic research in agriculture.

e) Organization of workshop, seminars, conferences etc. to create awareness, prioritization, scientific popularization and related issues.

(b) Yes, Madam. NASF has achieved desired results from funding in terms of publications, technologies, patents, human resource development and prioritisation of research in basic & strategic aspects of Indian agriculture. A total of 379 publication in highly reputed journals, 10 patents (filed/granted), more than 40 technologies and more than 500 manpower (RAs/SRFs) in cutting edge science/technologies have been made.

(c) A sum of Rs.3371.79177 lakh and Rs.1211.1322 lakhs has been released during 2015-16 and 2016-17, respectively to different funded centres.

(d) Yes, Madam. Maximum fund has been released to support research in basic and strategic aspects of Indian agriculture in the form of projects, mostly through competitive mode.

(e) Yes, Madam. NASF invites online submission of project proposals under competitive mode by the scientists/researchers of different institutions. Under Call VI, a total number of 996 proposals were received and out of which, 79 were from A.P. (includes Telangana).

(f) Seven projects comprising of 11 funded centres are being operated under the NASF funding presently in A.P. (includes Telangana).
